## **BEFORE**

## THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

DOCKET NO. 2011-47-WS - ORDER NO. 2012-31

## JANUARY 19, 2012

IN RE: Application of Carolina Water Service,
Incorporated for Approval of an Increase in
Its Rates for Water and Sewer Services
Provided to All of Its Service Areas in
South Carolina

ORDER DENYING
MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION
AND APPROVING
APPLICATION TO
PLACE RATES INTO
EFFECT UNDER BOND
PENDING APPEAL

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the motion by Carolina Water Service, Inc. (the "Applicant") for rehearing or reconsideration of this Commission's decision in Order No. 2011-784 denying the requested rate increase, and alternative motion that the Commission approve a bond allowing the Applicant to place rates into effect pending appeal. We deny the motion for rehearing or reconsideration and approve the bond.

With regard to the motion for rehearing or reconsideration, the Applicant has presented no new evidence or other information which might persuade any of the individual Commissioners to change their views as to whether the Applicant is entitled to rate relief. The views of the Commissioners are fully expressed in Order No. 2011-784 and the dissenting opinion previously issued, and those views are herein reaffirmed.

With regard to the bond and the placement of rates into effect pending appeal, our ruling is compelled by Section 58-5-240(D) of the South Carolina Code. The Applicant has presented to the Commission a proposed bond form to be executed by a surety

company authorized to do business in South Carolina and requested approval of a bond in

the amount of \$501,133. This figure represents the additional annual revenue which the

Applicant would have been entitled to earn if the Commission had granted the Applicant

the additional revenue proposed by the Office of Regulatory Staff in its proposed order.

Consistent with the governing statute, if the rates placed into effect under bond by the

Applicant are ultimately deemed excessive by the South Carolina Supreme Court on

appeal, the excess amount shall be refunded to customers with interest calculated at 12

percent per annum.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the

Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

John E. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:

David A. Wright, Vice Chairm

(SEAL)